MEDIA RELEASE

Attention: News Director For Immediate Release September 21, 2006



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DAVID L. HUBER UNITED STATES ATTORNEY Western District of Kentucky

Contact: Sandy Focken

United States Attorney's Office

(502) 582-5911

CALLOWAY COUNTY FELON CONVICTED FOR POSSESSION OF FIREARMS

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that on September 19, 2006, **DAVID ELLIOTT**, age 51, of 5633 Pottertown Road, Murray, Kentucky, was **found guilty** by a federal jury in United States District Court, Paducah, Kentucky, of one count of possession of a firearm while a convicted felon following a day and a half trial before Judge Thomas B. Russell.

Elliott had been indicted as a felon for the one count of knowingly possessing a firearm. Eight firearms, including shotguns, rifles, and handguns, were found at his residence on August 11, 2005. At that time, **Elliott** had been previously convicted of a felony offense punishable by imprisonment for more than one year.

U.S. Attorney Huber praised the Calloway County deputies for their quick action and stated "local law enforcement is the key to keeping our communities safe." He went on to also praise the Marshall County Sheriff's Office and the Kentucky State Police for their assistance in the investigation with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

On August 7, 2005, Calloway County deputies had responded to a domestic violence call at **Elliott's** residence. At that time they learned that various firearms were in the residence. After

being satisfied that the domestic issues had resolved, the officers left the residence. However, the

officers made additional investigation and learned that **Elliott** was a convicted felon. They obtained

a search warrant for the residence. On August 11, 2005, officers and agents from various law

enforcement agencies executed the search warrant and found 13 firearms (2 loaded revolvers & 11

rifles/shotguns) and a large amount of ammunition in the residence.

The maximum potential penalties are 10 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both, and

supervised release for a period of 3 years.

This is a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a partnership of state and federal

law enforcement which targets violent offenders for prosecution to the fullest extent of state and

federal law. The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and

Explosives, the Kentucky State Police, and the Calloway and Marshall County Sheriff's

Departments.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys David Sparks and Michele

Thielhorn.

Elliott is scheduled to be sentenced before Judge Thomas B. Russell on December 12, 2006,

at 11:00 a.m., in Paducah, Kentucky.

- END -

DLH:DS:060901.